Evening air service between Delhi and Guwahati

808. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce evening flight from Delhi-Guwahati and Guwahati-Delhi;

(b) if so, what is the position in this regard; and

(c) whether any private airlines have been asked for such flights to Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country including North-East Region. It is, however, upto the airlines to provide air services to specific places depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability. As such, the airlines are free to operate anywhere in the country subject to compliance of Route Dispersal Gudielines issued by the Government.

Project report on purchase of aircrafts

809. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any project report from Air India for the acquisition of more aircrafts for it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Air India requires more than 75 aircrafts in three years to meet its demand for operation; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Air India and Air India Charters Limited (AICL), a subsidiary of Air India, have submitted the following Projects for approval of the Government:

(i) for acquisition of 18xB-737-800W aircrafts for induction by AICL at a total cost of Rs. 4,951 crores; and